

Status of the Iowa Workforce and Economy

Upcoming 2021 News Release Schedule

Reference Month	Statewide News Release	Local Area News Release
Jan	Mar 15	Mar 15
Feb	Mar 26	Mar 30
Mar	Apr 16	Apr 20
Apr	May 21	May 25
May	Jun 23	Jun 23
Jun	Jul 16	Jul 20
Jul	Aug 20	Aug 24
Aug	Sep 17	Sep 21
Sep	Oct 22	Oct 26
Oct	Nov 19	Nov 23
Nov	Dec 17	Dec 21
Dec	Jan 25	Jan 25

Iowa Nonfarm Employment Seasonally Adjusted

Year	Month	Iowa Statewide Employment	Leisure & Hospitality Employment
2020	Sep	1,502,100	119,500
	Oct	1,512,700	119,700
	Nov	1,509,000	119,600
	Dec	1,513,400	117,700
2021	Jan	1,515,200	118,700
	Feb	1,510,800	120,200
	Mar	1,523,200	121,900
	Apr	1,517,400	123,000

Iowa Workforce Development

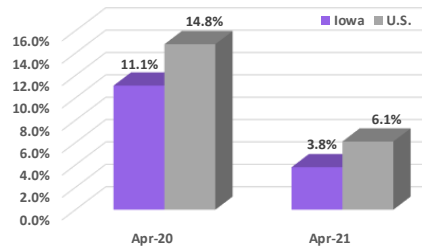
Information Prepared by the
Labor Market Information
Division

1000 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209

Phone: 515-242-5862
Fax: 515-281-8203

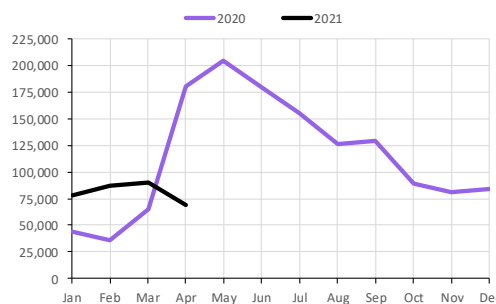
Donna Burkett, Bureau Chief
Iowa Workforce Development

Iowa and U.S. Unemployment Rates



- Iowa's unemployment rate experienced a slight rise to 3.8 percent in April. The state's jobless rate was 11.1 percent one year ago.
- The state's total employment level grew to 1,578,900 in April from 1,577,100 in March.
- The U.S. unemployment rate increased slightly to 6.1 percent in April.

Number of Individuals Receiving Benefit Payments — Regular Unemployment Insurance (UI) Plus Temporary Federal Programs



Source: IWD payment query

- The number of individuals receiving a UI benefit payment decreased from 90,200 in March 2021 to 69,400 in April 2021. This compares to 180,400 recipients for April 2020.
- This count includes any person who received a payment during the month from the regular UI program or one of the temporary pandemic programs.

- Total nonfarm employment decreased by 5,800 jobs in April following an increase of 12,400 jobs in March. Despite the loss, 4,000 jobs have been added in 2021.
- Construction shed 3,100 jobs after a sizable gain last month.
- Retail trade lost 2,200 jobs in April. This sector has started to cool down in 2021 after substantial hiring in 2020 after social distancing began in April.
- Professional and business services experienced its third loss in the last four months. 1,500 jobs were shed in April. Administrative support and waste management services alone shed 1,000 jobs.
- Leisure and hospitality gained 1,100 jobs and is now up 5,300 jobs for 2021. Most of the hiring has been in eating and drinking establishments.
- Total nonfarm employment is up 104,900 jobs following the April low as the quarantine began. Leisure and hospitality has added the most jobs (+44,700) followed by retail trade (+21,300).
- Nationally, total nonfarm employment added 266,000 jobs in April, substantially lower than the prior two month average. Bars and restaurants fueled most of the hiring.

Total Nonfarm Employment January 2020 to April 2021

